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> Attorneys for Plaintiff, Swaidan Traiding Co., LLC

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

#### PORTLAND DIVISION

## **SWAIDAN TRADING CO., LLC,**

Plaintiff.

No.

Admiralty

VS.

M/V DONOUSA, her engines, tackle, etc., in rem; and DILETON MARITIME, S.A., ANDROUSSA SHIPPING S.A., ARETOUSSA SHIPPING, S.A., and ERIKOUSSA MARITIME S.A, in personam,

Defendants.

VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

# SWAIDAN TRADINC CO., LLC'S VERIFIED COMPLAINT

Plaintiff SWAIDAN TRADING CO. LLC ("SWAIDAN" or "Plaintiff"), by its undersigned counsel, as and for its Verified Complaint against the Defendants DILETON MARITIME S.A. ("DILETON"), ANDROUSSA SHIPPING S.A. ("ANDROUSSA"), ERIKOUSSA MARITIME

Page 1 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

S.A. ("ERIKOUSSA"), and ARETOUSSA SHIPPING, S.A. ("ARETOUSSA") (collectively the

"Defendants" or "Vessel Owners"), avers and pleads as follows:

I. JURISDICTION, VENUE AND PARTIES

1. This is an admiralty and maritime claim within the meaning of Rule 9(h) of the

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in that it involves claims for the breach of maritime contracts –

*i.e.* the bill of lading; negligence; fraud; and implied warranty of workmanlike performance, all

of which are claims cognizable in admiralty. This case also falls under this Court's admiralty and

maritime jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1333 and is brought under the provision of Rule B

of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims.

2. At all times material hereto, Plaintiff SWAIDAN was and still is a foreign

business entity organized under the laws of the United Arab Emirates.

3. At all times material hereto, Defendant DILETON was and still is a foreign

business entity organized under the laws of Liberia, and trades from Greece with a principal

address located at 79 Akti Miaouli & 1 Kanari Street, 185 37 Piraeus, Greece.

4. At all times material hereto, Defendant ANDROUSSA was and still is a foreign

business entity organized under the laws of Liberia, with an address of "Care of Dileton

Maritime SA, 79 Akti Miaouli & 1 Kanari Street, 185 37 Piraeus, Greece."

5. At all times material hereto, Defendant ERIKOUSSA was and still is a foreign

business entity organized under the laws of Liberia, with an address of "Care of Dileton

Maritime SA, 79 Akti Miaouli & 1 Kanari Street, 185 37 Piraeus, Greece."

Page 2 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

6. At all times material hereto, Defendant ARETOUSSA was and still is a foreign

business entity organized under the laws of Liberia, with an address of "Care of Dileton

Maritime SA, 79 Akti Miaouli & 1 Kanari Street, 185 37 Piraeus, Greece."

7. The jurisdiction of this Honorable Court is founded on the presence within the

District of property of the Defendants that may be attached by process of maritime attachment

and garnishment under the provisions of Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty

and Maritime Claims, as pled in Section IV of this Verified Complaint.

8. Venue is proper in this matter as the property sought to be attached is currently

located within the Eastern District of Louisiana, presently believed to be at a terminal in or near

Destrehan, Louisiana, in St. Charles Parish.

II. THE SUBSTANTIVE CLAIMS

FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS

Plaintiff, SWAIDAN purchased a cargo of gas oil 5000PP in the quantity of

309,173 US Barrels from LITASCO Middle East DMCC at a price per barrel of USD 64.73 for a

total value of USD 20,012,768.29 (the "Subject Cargo"). A copy of the Final Invoice for this

purchase is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

9.

10. On or about April 1, 2017, the Subject Cargo was loaded on board the M/T

ANDROUSSA in Djibouti and was to be discharged at Ras Isa Port, Yemen. A clean bill of

lading dated April 1, 2017, was issued by Defendant ANDROUSSA, registered owner of the

M/T ANDROUSSA. A copy of the clean bill of lading is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

Page 3 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

Case 3:18-cv-00398-HZ Document 1 Filed 03/07/18 Page 4 of 22

11. On or about April 4, 2017, as the M/T ANDROUSSA approached Yemeni waters,

the vessel was stopped and boarded by the Coalition Forces led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

("KSA"). The vessel was directed to Jeddah, the KSA, for inspection, and then to Yanbu Al Bahr

for a further, more detailed inspection.

12. The inspections by the Coalition Forces and the KSA Authorities found several

serious violations indicating the likely smuggling of illegal weapons and recommended the

confiscation of the M/T ANDROUSSA and its cargo, including the Subject Cargo.

13. The matter was referred to the KSA, Ministry of Finance, Directorate General of

Customs, Jeddah First Instance Committee, (the "First Instance Committee") which after

examining the facts and the findings of the inspections found as follows:

a. Three (3) of M/T ANDROUSSA's ballast tanks contained traces of highly

explosive materials primarily used for military purposes;

b. The Vessel Owners and crew tampered with documents showing the last ten (10)

ports of call of the vessel in order to obtain permits to enter Yemeni ports (A copy

of the Port of Call List is attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**);

c. The Vessel Owners and crew forged various documents showing the vessel was

undergoing loading operations at Khasab, Oman between December 9, 2016 and

December 14, 2016. The vessel was actually present in Bandar Abbas, Iran at this

time;

Page 4 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

d. The Vessel Owners and crew tampered with the maps and navigation devices in

the vessel by deleting evidence that the vessel called at the ports of Bandar Abbas

and Lavan Island, in Iran;

e. While the vessel was in Lavan Island and Bandar Abbas, the Inmarsat C2 and

Automatic Identification System were switched off, making it impossible to track

the vessel's position between November 25 and 29, 2016 and December 9 and 14,

2016, respectively;

f. The Vessel Owners and crew forged maritime passports belonging to certain crew

members of Montenegrin nationality;

g. The Vessel Owners and crew attempted to break the Coalition Forces' maritime

blockade in Yemen;

h. The vessel contained a large quantity of steel pipes which had been modified to be

used as firearm components for military purposes;

. The Master's computer contained various emails in relation to the smuggling of

weapons and explosives into Yemen;

i. One (1) email indicates that the cargo located in the vessel's tanks would

be unloaded on the port's quay, whereas the cargo located in the vessel's

ballast tanks would be unloaded directly onto trucks. Together with the

finding of traces of highly explosive material in the ballast tanks, this

makes clear that the Vessel Owners were carrying out smuggling

Page 5 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

operations to Yemen in contravention with the United Nations Security

Council Resolution no. 2216 (2015).

j. The vessel was found to be in a condition not consistent with international ship

safety standards.

14. The First Instance Committee ordered the confiscation of the M/T ANDROUSSA

and all her cargo, including the Subject Cargo. An English translation of the First Instance

Committee's Judgment No. 395 of 1438H is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**.

15. Plaintiff is incurring finance costs in relation with the C&F value of the Subject

Cargo at a rate of four percent (4%) per month from April 2017 until January 2018 (with charges

continuing to accrue at the same rate on a monthly basis). Through January 2018 this amount is

approximately USD 8,005,107.28. This cost continues to accrue at approximately USD 800,000

per month.

16. Plaintiff has also incurred the cost of AED 174,175 (USD 47,420.89) in

purchasing insurance for the Subject Cargo. A copy of the Insurance Debit Note is attached

hereto as Exhibit 5.

17. Plaintiff has also incurred banking charges for a Letter of Credit in the amount of

AED 107,822.03 (USD 29,355.63). A copy of the banking debit note is attached hereto as

Exhibit 6.

BREACH OF MARITIME CONTRACT

18. Plaintiff, SWAIDAN repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one (1) through seventeen

(17) of this Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

Page 6 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF

VESSEL

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

Case 3:18-cv-00398-HZ Document 1 Filed 03/07/18 Page 7 of 22

The April 1, 2017 clean bill of lading is a valid maritime contract. 19.

20. The bill of lading was issued by New Maritime S.A.R.L. on behalf of Defendant

ANDROUSSA.

21. The bill of lading provided for delivery to the order of Plaintiff, SWAIDAN.

22. Plaintiff, SWAIDAN, performed under the bill of lading in the loading of the

Subject Cargo in Djibouti, for discharge at Ras Isa Port in Yemen.

23. Defendant ANDROUSSA, as Registered Owner of the M/T ANDROUSSA and

Defendant DILETON as the Commercial Operator, Technical Manager, and beneficial Owner,

failed to take care of the Subject Cargo while in its custody, failed to carry and discharge the

Subject Cargo at the port of discharge, failed to make the vessel seaworthy and cargo-worthy,

and failed to exercise due diligence to make the vessel seaworthy and cargo-worthy, all in breach

of the Defendants' obligations under the terms of the bill of lading.

Plaintiff has made due demand upon Defendant ANDROUSSA and Defendant's 24.

insurer to compensate Plaintiff for the loss of the Subject Cargo.

25. Notwithstanding, Defendant ANDROUSSA has failed, neglected or otherwise

refused to compensate Plaintiff for Plaintiff's losses, despite being exclusively the fault of the

Defendant.

26. As a result of Defendants' failure and breach of the maritime contract, Plaintiff

SWAIDAN suffered an economic loss of the value of the entire Subject Cargo, an amount not

less than USD 32,148,417.30.

Page 7 -VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

NEGLIGENCE

27. Plaintiff, SWAIDAN repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one (1) through seventeen

(17) of this Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

28. Defendant ANDROUSSA, as Registered Owner of the M/T ANDROUSSA, and

Defendant DILETON, as Commercial Operator and Technical Manager of the M/T

ANDROUSSA, owed Plaintiff a duty of care to properly and carefully load, handle, stow, carry,

keep, care for and discharge the Subject Cargo.

29. Defendants ANDROUSSA and DILETON, through their actions failed in this

duty, resulting in the loss of the Subject Cargo.

30. Defendants engaged in illegal activity, as discussed in paragraph twelve (12),

evidencing Defendants' negligence in properly caring for the Subject Cargo.

31. As a direct result of Defendants actions, Plaintiff has suffered economic damages

related to the loss of the Subject Cargo, in an amount not less than USD 32,148,417.30.

32. Plaintiff has made due demand upon Defendants and Defendants insurer to

compensate Plaintiff for the loss of the Subject Cargo.

33. Notwithstanding, Defendants have failed, neglected or otherwise refused to

compensate Plaintiff's losses, despite being exclusively the fault of the Defendants.

**FRAUD** 

34. Plaintiff, SWAIDAN repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one (1) through seventeen

(17) of this Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

Page 8 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF

VESSEL

35. Defendant ANDROUSSA, in its capacity as Registered Owner of the M/T

ANDROUSSA, and Defendant DILETON, in its capacity as Commercial Operator and

Technical Manager of the M/T ANDROUSSA, falsely represented to Plaintiff that the M/T

ANDROUSSA was seaworthy / cargoworthy and in compliance with all international

regulations.

36. Defendant ANDROUSSA provided a Port of Call list and an IMO Crew list to

Plaintiff and Defendants where Defendants made false representations as to the location of the

last ten (10) ports that the M/T ANDROUSSA had called at. Specifically, Defendants excluded

the ports of Lavan Island and Bandar Abbas from the Port of Call list. See Exhibit 3.

37. Defendants represented to Plaintiff that the M/T ANDROUSSA was in a

seaworthy and cargoworthy condition.

38. Defendants, pursuant to a letter from Defendant DILETON dated March 26, 2017,

represented to Plaintiff that the only firearms and ammunition on board the M/T ANDROUSSA

were locked in a safe and consisted of sixteen (16) rifles. The Arms / Ammunition letter is

attached hereto as Exhibit 7.

39. Defendants falsely represented the amount of weapons on board the M/T

ANDROUSSA by excluding the presence of firearm components and explosive material.

40. Defendants had knowledge that the representations made to Plaintiff were false,

and that the M/T ANDROUSSA was falsifying records and navigational systems with the intent

to obfuscate its visits to Iran in order to smuggle weapons, explosives, and other contraband.

Page 9 -VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

Page 10 of 22

41. Defendants made these false representations in order to obtain Plaintiff's

business. Plaintiff would not have contracted for the use of the M/T ANDROUSSA absent these

representations by Defendants, specifically that the M/T ANDROUSSA was seaworthy /

cargoworthy and in compliance with all international regulations.

42. As a result of Plaintiff's reliance on Defendants' false representations, Plaintiff

has lost the Subject Cargo and suffered damages in an amount not less than USD 32,148,417.30.

IMPLIED WARRANTY OF WORKMANLIKE PERFORMANCE

Plaintiff, SWAIDAN repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one (1) through seventeen

(17) of this Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

44. Upon information and belief, DILETON served as Commercial Operator and

Technical Manager for the M/T ANDROUSSA under a maritime service contract.

45. Under the maritime service contract for commercial operation and technical

management of the M/T ANDROUSSA, Defendant DILETON has an implied warranty of

workmanlike performance owed to Defendant ANDROUSSA, and to Plaintiff as an intended

beneficiary of the contract.

43.

46. Under the maritime service contract for commercial operation and technical

management of the M/T ANDROUSSA, Defendant DILETON impliedly agreed to perform the

contracted services in a diligent and workmanlike manner.

47. As evidenced by the findings of the First Instance Committee, summarized in

paragraph twelve (12), Defendant DILETON did not perform under the maritime service

contract in a diligent and workmanlike manner.

Page 10 -VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF

VESSEL

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48. Plaintiff, as owner of the Subject Cargo aboard the M/T ANDROUSSA, was an

intended beneficiary of the maritime service contract for the technical management and

commercial operation of the M/T ANDROUSSA.

49. As a direct result of Defendant DILETON's breach of its warranty of

workmanlike performance, the Subject Cargo was confiscated causing economic damages to

Plaintiff in an amount not less than USD 32,148,417.30.

ALTER EGO LIABILITY

50. Plaintiff, SWAIDAN repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one (1) through seventeen

(17) of this Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

51. The alter ego doctrine applies when (1) the owner exercised complete control over

the corporation with respect to the transaction at issue and (2) such control was used to commit a

fraud or wrong that injured the party seeking to pierce the veil.<sup>1</sup>

a. Factual Allegations of Dominion and Control

52. Defendant DILETON exercises complete control over Defendants

ANDROUSSA, ERIKOUSSA, and ARETOUSSA.

53. Defendant DILETON exercised complete dominion and control over Defendant

ANDROUSSA, such that DILETON is the true entity that perpetrated the acts as discovered by

the First Instance Committee, as listed in paragraph twelve (12).

<sup>1</sup> Bridas S.A.P.I.C. v. Government of Turkmenistan, 345 F.3d 347, 359 (5th Cir. 2003)

Page 11 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

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Case 3:18-cv-00398-HZ Document 1 Filed 03/07/18 Page 12 of 22

54. Notwithstanding their nominal, formal separate incorporation, the Defendants are

in actual fact a single business entity pursuing functionally differentiated business objectives

through nominally separate business structures but always subject to the command and control of

Mr. Dimitrios Papantonopoulos and Mr. Sotirios Papantonopoulos.

55. Upon information and belief, Defendant DILETON was established by, and is

owned by, Mr. Dimitrios Papantonopoulos.

56. Defendant DILETON has a fleet of four (4) vessels consisting of the M/T

ANDROUSSA, the M/T HYDROUSSA, the M/V DONOUSA, and the M/V ERIKOUSSA. A

copy of DILETON's website listing its fleet of vessels, available at www.dileton.gr is attached

hereto as Exhibit 8.

57. According to the Lloyd's List Intelligence database, each of the four (4) above-

referenced vessels is nominally owned by a different entity. To wit, the registered owner of the

M/T ANDROUSSA is Defendant, ANDROUSSA SHIPPING S.A.; the registered owner of the

M/T HYDROUSSA is Benamor Trading Corp.; the registered owner of the M/V DONOUSA is

Aretoussa Shipping S.A.; and the registered owner of the M/V ERIKOUSSA is Defendant,

ERIKOUSSA MARITIME S.A. See documents attached hereto as Exhibit 9.

58. Mr. Dimitrios Papantonopoulos and Mr. Sotirios Papantonopoulos, through their

ownership of Defendant DILETON, have complete dominion and control over the four (4) vessel

owning entities; such that Defendant DILETON is the true beneficial owner of each of the four

(4) above named vessels.

Page 12 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

59. According to the Lloyd's List Intelligence database, Defendant DILETON is the

Beneficial Owner of the M/T ANDROUSSA. "The Beneficial Owner is deemed to be the

ultimate owning entity or representative thereof (either individual, company, group or

organization). The Beneficial Owner may be the vessel's management company or the trading

name of a group, both of which are generally perceived to represent the ultimate owners of the

vessel." See documents attached hereto as Exhibit 9, p. 9.

60. Though Defendants comprise nominally separate corporate business / legal

entities, their ownership and control is so intertwined and fused that they are distinct from one

another merely as a matter of formality. As is pled more specifically below, Defendants

ANDROUSSA, ERIKOUSSA, and ARETOUSSA are nothing more than mere alter egos of

DILETON, as all three (3) Defendants are members of a group of companies subject to the

complete control and domination of Mr. Dimitrios Papantonopoulos and Mr. Sotirios

Papantonopoulos.

61. Even though each vessel in the fleet of DILETON was registered in the name of

an individual one-ship-company, DILETON beneficially owned and operated these vessels as

assets of a single business enterprise; and the purported corporate independence of the respective

vessel owners was simply fictitious, as they were entirely subjugated to DILETON's business

goals and policies.

62. The finances and business activities of Defendant DILETON, and the four (4)

vessel-owning entities including Defendants ANDROUSSA, ERIKOUSSA, and ARETOUSSA

are so intertwined, and there exists such a unity of ownership and interest between them that no

separation exists.

Page 13 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF

VESSEL

63. The Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs for the Republic of

Liberia maintains copies of the first preferred mortgage for the M/T ANDROUSSA, which

connects the Defendants and the other vessel-owning entities in the DILETON group, and

establishes Defendant DILETON as the beneficial owner of the M/T ANDROUSSA. A copy of

the mortgage agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.

64. The first preferred mortgage of the M/T ANDROUSSA, entered into between

Defendant ANDROUSSA and the National Bank of Greece, S.A. secured a loan for another

DILETON entity, Benamor Trading Corp. (registered owner of the M/T HYDROUSSA), in the

amount of USD 3,968,700.

65. Under the terms of the first preferred mortgage of the M/T ANDROUSSA,

Defendant DILETON is required to serve as Manager of the M/T ANDROUSSA. See Exhibit 10

at Art. 1 § 11.

66. The first preferred mortgage of the M/T ANDROUSSA was executed by Mr.

Dimitrios Papantonopoulos, who is the founder and owner of Defendant DILETON.

67. Further evidencing the interrelationship of the DILETON group of companies, the

Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs for the Republic of Liberia maintains

copies of the first preferred mortgage for the M/V ERIKOUSSA, which was entered into by and

between Defendant ERIKOUSSA and Eurobank Ergasias S.A. in order to secure a loan to

Page 14 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

Defendant ERIKOUSSA in the amount of USD 6,500,000.2 A copy of the first preferred

mortgage of the M/V ERIKOUSSA is attached hereto as Exhibit 11.

68. The first preferred mortgage for the M/V ERIKOUSSA was signed in connection

with a Loan Agreement between Eurobank Ergasias S.A. and ERIKOUSSA for the purchase of

the M/V TIANJIN PIONEER (subsequently renamed M/V ERIKOUSSA). The Loan Agreement

is attached hereto as Appendix A to Exhibit 11.

69. Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, Defendant DILETON was to act as the Approved

Manager for the technical and commercial management of the M/V ERIKOUSSA, and

as the Corporate Guarantor for the contract entered into by Defendant ERIKOUSSA.

Aretroussa Shipping S.A., another DILETON entity and the registered owner of the

M/V DONOUSA, is also listed as the Collateral Obligor and a Corporate Guarantor

under the Loan Agreement See Appendix A, p.4-5, to Exhibit 11.

70. Pursuant to Clause 21.1 of the Loan Agreement, all notices, requests, demands, or

other communications under the Agreement shall be sent not to ERIKOUSSA, but to "c/o

DILETON MARITIME S.A., 73 Akti Miaouli and 1, Kanari Str, 18537, Piraeus, Greece." See

Appendix A to Exhibit 11.

71. The Loan Agreement was executed by Mr. Sotirios Papantonopoulos, on behalf of

Defendant, ERIKOUSSA. See Appendix A to Exhibit 11.

<sup>2</sup> As further evidence showing the intermingling of the vessel-owning entities, a second preferred mortgage for the M/V DONOUSA was also entered into by and between Aretroussa Shipping S.A. (registered owner of the M/V DONOUSA) and Eurobank Ergasias S.A. in order

to secure the loan to Defendant ERIKOUSSA).

Page 15 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

Page 16 of 22

72. Based on the foregoing, and upon information and belief, Defendant DILETON

was at all relevant times the Beneficial Owner of its entire fleet of vessels, including M/T

ANDROUSSA, IMO No. 9101182, the M/V ERIKOUSSA, IMO No. 9291092, and the M/V

DONOUSA, IMO No. 9284867. (Notably, the Beneficial Owners for the M/V ERIKOUSSA and

the M/V DONOUSA were changed from DILETON to the "Papantonopoulos family group of

companies" on February 9, 2018—seven days after the February 2, 2018 execution of Writ of

Attachment issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana for

M/V ERIKOUSSA at New Orleans, Louisiana. A copy of the Lloyd's List Intelligence reports

evidencing that change for the ERIKOUSSA and the DONOUSA are attached as **Exhibit 11b**.)

73. Defendant ANDROUSSA provides its address as "Care of DILETON Maritime

SA." A copy of the Equasis ShipInfo website listing the Ownership of the M/T ANDROUSSA is

attached hereto as Exhibit 12.

74. Defendant ARETOUSSA similarly provides is address as "Care of DILETON

Maritime SA." A copy of the Equasis ShipInfo website listing the Ownership of the M/V

DONOUSSA is attached hereto as Exhibit 13.

75. Laytime calculations and demurrage invoices for the M/T ANDROUSSA were

provided by Defendant DILETON, on DILETON letterhead. Copies of M/T ANDROUSSA

laytime calculations and demurrage invoices are attached hereto as Exhibit 14.

76. All Defendants were at all relevant times operated, controlled, and managed by a

single economic enterprise, which is ultimately controlled by Mr. Dimitrios Papantonopoulos

and Mr. Sotirios Papantonopoulos.

VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF Page 16 -

VESSEL

77. Accordingly, upon information and belief, Defendants are mere alter egos of each

other subject to the complete domination and control of Mr. Dimitrios Papantonopoulos and Mr.

Sotirios Papantonopoulos.

b. Fraud in the Underlying Transaction

78. Defendant DILETON used its control over Defendant ANDROUSSA to

fraudulently induce Plaintiff into entering into the bill of lading for the carriage of cargo in the

subject transaction.

79. Defendant DILETON falsely represented to Plaintiff that the M/T ANDROUSSA

was seaworthy and cargoworthy and in compliance with all international regulations.

80. Defendant DILETON had knowledge that the M/T ANDROUSSA visited the

ports of Lavan Island and Bandar Abbas in Iran, and withheld that information from Plaintiff.

81. On March 27, 2017, Defendant DILETON represented to Plaintiff via a

certification of Arms / Ammunition carried on the M/T ANDROUSSA, that the only firearms

and ammunition on board the M/T ANDROUSSA were locked in a safe. A copy of this

certification is attached hereto as Exhibit 7.

82. Defendant DILETON falsely represented the amount of weapons on board the

M/T ANDROUSSA by excluding the presence of firearm components and explosive material.

83. Defendant DILETON had or should have had knowledge that the representations

made to Plaintiff were false, and that the M/T ANDROUSSA was falsifying records and

Page 17 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

navigational systems with the intent to obfuscate its visits to Iran in order to smuggle weapons,

explosives, and other contraband.

84. Defendant DILETON made these false representations in order to obtain

Plaintiff's business. Plaintiff would not have contracted for the use of the M/T ANDROUSSA

absent these material mis-representations by Defendant.

85. Defendant DILETON now intends to operate its remaining vessels, including the

M/V DONOUSA with impunity, as it attempts to hide behind the sham company ARETOUSSA

MARITIME S.A. without providing Plaintiff with payment or security caused by DILETON

through its domination, control and use of the M/T ANDROUSSA to commit a wrong which has

caused Plaintiff significant injuries and damages.

86. Defendant DILETON used its control of Defendant ANDROUSSA to make

fraudulent representations to Plaintiff, provide an unseaworthy and uncargoworthy vessel, and

such fraudulent and wrongful dominion and control over DILETON's vessels, including the M/T

ANDROUSSA and M/V DONOUSA, has caused injuries and damages to Plaintiff in an amount

not less than USD 32,148,417.30.3

87. By reason of the relationship of complete dominion and control that Defendant

DILETON has exercised over its subsidiaries ANDROUSSA and ARETOUSSA, taking into

consideration the foregoing facts and circumstances, it would be just, equitable and proper for

<sup>3</sup> At this preliminary stage, Plaintiff is not required to definitively establish that Defendants are alter-egos, but need only show *prima facie*, reasonable grounds to believe so. A.

Coker & Co., Ltd. v. Nat'l Shipping Agency Corp., 1999 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 7442, \*2 (E.D. La. 1999); see also Naftomar Shipping & Trading Co. v. KMA Int'l S.A., 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS

24723 (S.D. Tex. 2011).

Page 18 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

the Court to exercise its equitable powers to pierce the corporate veil of DILETON as an alter

ego of ANDROUSSA, ERIKOUSSA, and ARTOUSSA so that the vessel M/V DONOUSA may

be attached with process of maritime attachment and garnishment as a source of security for

Plaintiff's loss of the Subject Cargo.

III. UNDERLYING PROCEEDINGS ON THE MERITS

88. Plaintiff, SWAIDAN repeats and re-alleges paragraphs one (1) through eighty-

seven (87) of this Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

89. This action is, in part, an ancillary proceeding, brought in order to obtain

jurisdiction over Defendants, and to obtain security for Plaintiff's claims in aid of anticipated

arbitration or High Court proceedings in London.

90. Interest, costs and attorneys' fees are routinely awarded to the prevailing party

under English Law. Section 63 of the English Arbitration Act of 1996 specifically allows for

recovery of these items as part of an award in favor of the prevailing party. Further, the Senior

Courts Act 1981 confirms that the High Court has the power to award simple interest for the

recovery of a debt or damages.

IV. APPLICATION FOR ATTACHMENT UNDER SUPPLEMENTAL ADMIRALTY RULE B

91. Defendants are not present and cannot be found in the District within the meaning

of Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Law Claims of the

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. See Affidavit of Attorney David R. Boyajian attached hereto as

Exhibit 15. Notwithstanding, the Defendants currently have (or will soon have) within the

Page 19 - VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF VESSEL

District tangible personal property comprised of the M/V DONOUSA, IMO No. 9284867, which

is subject to attachment as security for Plaintiff's maritime claims.

92. Defendants, having operated at all relevant times as a single enterprise, and being

the alter ego of each other in the circumstances set in the above and foregoing Verified

Complaint, it would be fair and equitable for any asset of this enterprise to be subject to the

claims of creditors of the enterprise, such as Plaintiff, and for any such assets to be attached as

security for Plaintiff's maritime claims.

93. Plaintiff has maritime claims against the Defendants ANDROUSSA and

DILETON arising out of (1) a maritime contract; (2) negligence; (3) fraud; and (4) breach of

implied warranty of workmanlike performance, and all claims attach against Defendants

ERIKOUSSA and ARETOUSSA on the basis of alter-ego and corporate veil piercing.

94. As best as can be estimated at this time, Plaintiff SWAIDAN expects to recover

the following amounts in London Arbitration from Defendants:

A. C&F value of the Subject Cargo: \$20,012,768.29

B. Finance costs of 4% per month from

April 2017 through February 2018: @ \$8,085,107.28

C. Insuring the Cargo: \$47,420.89

D. Banking Charges: \$29,355.63

E. Total Principal Claim: \$28,094,652.09

F. Estimated interest on Principal Claim: \$3,553,765.21

Page 21 of 22

2 years at 6.0%, compounded quarterly

G. Estimated attorneys' fees and costs: \$500,000.00

D. **TOTAL:**  \$32,948,417.30

95. Therefore, Plaintiff's total claim for breach of the maritime contract, negligence,

and fraud against Defendants is in the aggregate USD 32,948,417.30.

96. The M/T ANDROUSSA's sister ship, the M/V DONOUSA, is currently (or will

soon be) within the District of Oregon, and is expected to conduct commercial operations within

the District.

97. Plaintiff believes that the M/V DONOUSA, her engines, boilers, tackle, apparel,

and all necessary appurtenances thereto, is tangible property and an asset of the Defendants

which is or will be located in this District.

98. Defendants DILETON, ANDROUSSA, ERIKOUSSA, and ARETOUSSA cannot

be found within the District of Oregon for the purposes of Rule B of the Admiralty Rules. See

Affidavit of Attorney David R. Boyajian attached hereto as **Exhibit 15**.

WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays as follows:

That process in due form of law, according to the practice of this Honorable Court A.

in matters of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction issue against Defendants and said Defendants

be cited to appear and answer the allegations of this Complaint;

В. That if Defendants cannot be found within this district, then all of their respective

property within this district, including the M/V DONOUSA, her engines, boilers, tackle, apparel,

and all necessary appurtenances thereto, as well as debts, credits, or effects including but not

Page 21 -VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ATTACHMENT OF

VESSEL

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limited to accounts, checks, disbursement advances, payments, property on board the M/V

DONOUSA, owned by the said Defendants or in the hands of persons named as garnishees in the

Process of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment be attached and seized pursuant to

Supplemental Admiralty Rule B for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims;

C. That a judgment be entered against the Defendants in the sum of USD

32,948,417.30, and the proceeds of the assets attached be applied in satisfaction thereof;

D. That the Court grant such other and further relief as it deems, just, equitable and

proper.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

By: <u>s/David R. Boyajian</u>

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Of Attorneys for Plaintiff, Swaidan Trading

Co., LLC